

**Freedom of Information Request**

**Ref: UHB 20-066**

12 February 2020

By Email

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Trust's response is as follows:

1. The total number of children's operations cancelled for non-clinical reasons, broken down by the cause of the cancellation, for example due to lack of beds, operating theatre capacity, staffing issues, and equipment failures. Please provide this information for each of the past three financial years 2017/18, 2018/19, 2019/20).

In the total number of operations, broken down by cancellation reason, please include:

- a. Elective children's operations cancelled at the last minute. For the purposes of this request, last minute means on the day the patient was due to arrive, after the patient has arrived in hospital or on the day of the operation or surgery.
- b. Cancelled urgent children's operations.

For the purposes of this FOI, Children will be defined as under 18's.

Cancelled operations where patients were aged < 18 at time of cancelled operation.

Reason for Cancellation	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020 YTD
Lack of beds	36	19	12
Operating theatre capacity / list over-ran	10	12	6
Staffing issues	25	21	20
Equipment failures	8	4	4
Emergency case took priority	30	20	27
Adverse weather	0	0	0
Booking / admin error	0	2	0
Case note unavailable	0	0	0
Other reasons	1	17	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>72</b>

This concludes our response. We trust that you find this helpful, but please do not hesitate to contact us directly if we can be of any further assistance.

If, after that, you are dissatisfied with the handling of your request, you have the right to ask for an internal review. Internal review requests should be submitted within two months of the date of receipt of the response to your original letter and should be addressed to:

Director of Corporate Governance  
University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust  
Trust Headquarters  
Marlborough Street  
Bristol  
BS1 3NU

Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF

#### Publication

Please note that this letter and the information included/attached will be published on our website as part of the Trust's Freedom of Information Publication Log. This is because information disclosed in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act is disclosed to the public, not just to the individual making the request. We will remove any personal information (such as your name, email and so on) from any information we make public to protect your personal information.

To view the Freedom of Information Act in full please click [here](#).

Yours sincerely

**FOI Team**  
**UH Bristol NHS Foundation Trust**